Distortions in Text books

3508. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that text books prescribed for educational Institutes in certain States in the country continue to contain distortions making the impressionable minds of students biased against the minority communities;

(b) if so, how continuance of such biased school text books can create healthy atmosphere and cordial relationship among various communities and sections of society in a secular and democratic country; and

(c) what measures are contemplated by Government in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) to (c) The National Policy on Education envisages a National System of Education based on a National Curricular Framework containing a common core cutting across different subject areas. Based on the framework guidelines and the revised textbooks of the NCERT, the State Governments are expected to adopt or adapt, the same for revision of school curricula, syllabi and textbooks in their respective school systems in a phased manner. An overwhelming majority of the schools in the country are under the control of State Governments and they enjoy full autonomy in all school education matters, including prescription of syllabi and textbooks within their respective jurisdiction. Whenever any objectionable references are brought to the notice of the Union Government, the matter is referred to the States for necessary action. The Central Government or its organisations do not have any direct role in this matter.

Mahajan Committee Report on KVS

3509. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN:
SHRI ABDUL GAIYUR QURESHI:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Mahajan Committee set up in 1999 over affairs of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan has since submitted its report;

(b) if so, the details of the recommendations made;

(c) whether the Board of Governors have since accepted these recommendations;

(d) if so, whether these are to be accepted by Government also before their implementation; and

(e) if so, the reasons and justifications thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The main recommendation is that freezing of sections is not academically sound or administratively feasible. It has been recommended that the Commissioner should have full powers of opening new sections and sanctioning additional staff. The Board of Governors of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan has agreed with the recommendations and has decided to recommend to the Government to keep the salary budget of KVS flexible so that the Commissioner may be in a position to sanction new posts whenever required.

(d) and (e) The recommendations of the Board of Governors of the Sangathan will also require approval of other Ministries. These recommendations have not yet been received.

Zero fail year

†3510. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the pass percentage of students of Kendriya Vidyalayas is gradually decreasing and the Ministry is concerned about it;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any efforts have been made to celebrate any year as Zero fail year;

(d) if so, the outcomes thereof; and

(e) which was the year?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The pass percentage of class X and class XII of Kendriya Vidyalayas has been consistently higher than the average pass percentage of the Central Board of Secondary Education, details of which are given below.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.